

ER 11-1102-a

19 FEB 1959

Miss Alexandra Tolstoy
Tolstoy Foundation, Inc.
989 Eighth Avenue
New York 19, New York

Dear Miss Tolstoy:

Your letter of 2 February 1959 regarding the forthcoming commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of your father's death is appreciated.

I certainly share your concern about a Soviet attempt to use the universal esteem in which your father is held to further their own propaganda cause. A Leo Tolstoy commemoration stamp in the 1960 "Champion of Liberty" series would indeed do much to remind the Free World of his devotion to the cause of human rights and liberty.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

STAT

Allen W. Dulles
Director

Signature Recommended:

W.R.M.B.
Deputy Director (Plans)
Retyped: O/DCI/JSE:blp 18 Feb 59
Distribution:

Original - Addressee

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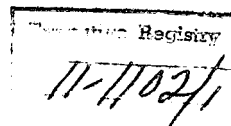
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25 Feb 59

STAT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Chief, Psychological and Paramilitary Staff
Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT: Commemoration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of
Tolstoy's Death

1. This memorandum requests signature by the DCI on the attached letter.

2. In accordance with Mr. Russell's request, attached hereto is a suggested response to Alexandra Tolstoy's letter of 2 February 1959 on the above subject (Attachment No. 1). I have also enclosed for your information a resume of the present status of IO Division planning on commemoration of this event (Attachment No. 2).

CORD MEYER, JR.
Chief

International Organizations Division

Attachments:

As stated above

cc: DDCI

25X1

DDP/IO/Plans val (13 February 59)

Distribution:

Orig & 1 - Addressee

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25X1

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Executive Registry

11-1102/a

19 FEB 1959

Miss Alexandra Tolstoy
Tolstoy Foundation, Inc.
989 Eighth Avenue
New York 19, New York

Dear Miss Tolstoy:

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I certainly share your concern about a Soviet attempt to use the universal esteem in which your father is held to further their own propaganda cause. A Leo Tolstoy commemoration stamp in the 1960 "Champion of Liberty" series would indeed do much to remind the Free World of his devotion to the cause of human rights and liberty.

I shall do whatever I can to support your request to the Postmaster General on this matter.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director

cc: DDCI

STAT

ended:

Deputy Director (Plans)

Distribution:

Orig- Addressee

✓ 2 - DCI

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Executive Registry

11-1102/1

25X

28 FEB 60

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Chief, Psychological and Paramilitary Staff
Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT: Commemoration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of
Tolstoy's Death

1. This memorandum requests signature by the DCI on the attached letter.

2. In accordance with Mr. Bissell's request, attached hereto is a suggested response to Alexandra Tolstoy's letter of 2 February 1959 on the above subject (Attachment No. 1). I have also enclosed for your information a resume of the present status of IO Division planning on commemoration of this event (Attachment No. 2).

CORD MEYER, JR.
Chief

International Organizations Division

Attachments:
As stated above

cc: DDCI

25X

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~


9 February 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Psychological and Paramilitary Staff

SUBJECT : Tolstoy Foundation

It seems to me we should be able to do something useful in the propaganda line about the 50th anniversary of Tolstoy's death. Also Alexandra Tolstoy's suggestion seems to me a good one. If you agree, would you and Cord Meyer get together and draft a favorable reply for the DCI's signature and take the larger question under advisement.

Attachment: ER-11-1102


RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
Deputy Director
(Plans)

cc: Chief IO Division
w/cc ER-11-1102

DCI SUSPENSE DATE: 13 February 1959

CONFIDENTIAL

11-1102

TOLSTOY FOUNDATION, INC.

989 EIGHTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

TELEPHONE CIRCLE 7-2922

CABLE ADDRESS: "TOLFUND" NEW YORK

February 2, 1959

Mr. Allen W. Dulles
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

Next year, on November 20, 1960, will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the death of my father Leo Tolstoy. You may be already aware that the Soviets are going to try to capitalize upon this anniversary through their detestable propaganda. This my father would never have stood for; everything he represented and every day of his life is one hundred percent against the lies and tyrannies of the communist criminals.

The Tolstoy Foundation is encouraging a Leo Tolstoy revival throughout the free world during 1960 to preserve the spirit of his writing as it should be, that of liberty.

I am requesting the Postmaster General to commemorate Leo Tolstoy in the fine "Champion of Liberty" series for 1960. May I hope for your support in this endeavor?

Sincerely,

Alexandra Tolstoy
Alexandra Tolstoy

AT:d

Enclosure

TOLSTOY FOUNDATION, INC.

**989 Eighth Avenue
New York 19, N.Y.**

February 2, 1959

**The Honorable Arthur Summerfield
Postmaster General
Washington, D. C.**

Dear Mr. Postmaster General:

The recently instituted "Champion of Liberty" series of four and eight cent stamps is a magnificent way of telling the people of the world that America stands for liberty. May I suggest a name for inclusion in this effective series for 1960?

I would like to nominate my father, Leo Tolstoy, for commemoration during 1960, as November 20, 1960 will mark the fiftieth anniversary of his death.

The figure of Leo Tolstoy has represented the essence of liberty initially to the myriad peoples of Russia and later to all humanity. Throughout his life and reflected in his writings he has shown that he could not compromise with any intentional dilution of liberty, and though this has been clearly recognized, the Soviets have tried and are still trying to pervert Leo Tolstoy's teaching and have tried unsuccessfully to make him a prophet of their choosing and propaganda.

But as you know, Leo Tolstoy's novels, as well as his articles, always stood for liberty, love to mankind and for human rights. As he wrote in his essays, such as "The Law of Violence" and "The Law of Love", his famous article, "I Cannot Remain Silent", his letters to Czar Nicholas II, he was unable to choose the easy course of silence when injustice demanded to be exposed.

It would, dear Mr. Postmaster General, make a tremendous impression upon the liberty loving peoples of the world if Leo Tolstoy could appear in 1960 in the magnificent "Champion of Liberty" series.

Most sincerely,

Alexandra Tolstoy

AT:d

25X1

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